

YOUTH PRAYS-GOD ANSWERS!

Glen A. Coon

Name: _____

Date: _____

Lesson 18:

A Young Hero

YOUNG PEOPLE are not merely delighted with the thrills of answered prayer; there are those who are willing to suffer and even die for their Lord. Pastor E. L. Cardey, for many years a close friend of our family, shares the following experience.

"The pages of history are filled with accounts of men and women, boys and girls who gladly gave their lives rather than deny God and His truth. Sometimes, however, God uses great accidents and troubles, even where death is involved, to bring the light of truth to others.

"One day we received in the Bible school in Africa a request for our Bible lessons from a sixteen-year-old high school boy. He and his entire family belonged to a church. He soon became an exceptionally good student and accepted advanced Bible truth as it came to him. When he learned the Sabbath was the seventh day of the week and not Sunday the first day, he wrote that by God's grace, he would keep the true Sabbath. His parents and relatives were greatly opposed to his doing so and tried to stop him from studying the Bible lessons. Then came a lesson on the true form of baptism. He at once wanted to be baptized. His parents strictly forbade it. He wrote us saying that he would have to wait for baptism until he was of age, but in the meantime he would keep God's Sabbath regardless.

"Just a few weeks after this letter came from him, his mother wrote us, through her tears and sorrow, the following story. The boy's home was only a couple of blocks from the high school, so he rode his bicycle to school and back, and came home for lunch each day. The mother was watching for him one day when she saw him coming, another boy riding with him on the back of his bicycle. She then saw an automobile come down the road toward them. The boys rode their bicycle off the road to avoid the car, but it followed them and hit them while going at high speed. She, with neighbors, rushed to the scene of the accident, but it was too late to do anything. Both boys had been instantly killed. The mother did not know her son had been taking his Bible and Bible school lessons to school with him.

"When she saw his Bible lying on the grass, she went to pick it up and found it lying open at 2 Timothy 4. The following words were underlined in ink: 'I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing. Do thy diligence to come shortly unto me.' Verses 6-9. This last sentence was underscored twice.

"On her knees there in the grass that mother said: 'Yes, Son, I will come. I will study these lessons and do what God wants me to do.'

"It is remarkable to relate that within another year the boy's parents, his own brothers, sisters, and in-laws had all accepted God's message of Sabbath reform and organized a Sabbath School of over fifteen

members with the brother-in-law as the superintendent. The mother wrote us that it was strange to them that this young boy should underscore those verses. It appeared to them to be a message direct from God. If not, why was the Bible lying open at these very verses?"

Thank you, Pastor Cardy. And thanks be to God that His power and love are making heroes out of young men and young women all over the world. And the Word of God that changed the lives of this boy's precious parents is still changing lives everywhere.

Quiz 18

1. Sometimes God uses _____ and _____ even where _____ is involved to bring the light of truth to others.

2. What appeared to be a message direct from God? _____
_____.

3. Thought question: How many times in your life do you know an incident was providential, even though some might try to call it a coincidence? Perhaps you would like to list one or more of them.